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DOCKET NO.: 060368-WS - Application for increase in water and wastewater rates in Alachua, Brevard, Highlands, Lake, Lee, Marion, Orange, Palm Beach, Pasco, Polk, Putnam, Seminole, Sumter, Volusia and Washington Counties by Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc.

WITNESS: Direct Testimony of Kathleen H. Gerard, Appearing on Behalf of the Staff of the Florida Public Service Commission.

DATE FILED: August 21, 2007

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FPSC-COMMISSION CLERK

1 DIRECT TESTIMONY OF KATHLEEN H. GERARD

2 Q. Please state your name and business address.

3 A. Kathleen H. Gerard, Florida Department of Environmental Protection,  
4 7825 Baymeadows Way Suite B200, Jacksonville, FL 32256

5 Q. Please state a brief description of your educational background and experience.

6 A. Master of Science Degree, in Environmental Engineering Sciences with specialty in  
7 Water and Wastewater Treatment and Design, University of Florida. Four years total  
8 as an Engineer and Associate Scientist with consulting engineering firms, CH2M Hill,  
9 Inc., and Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc., both which are located in  
10 Gainesville, Florida, and 25 years as an Engineer in the Domestic Waste Section, with  
11 the State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection in Jacksonville, Florida.

12 Q. By whom are you presently employed?

13 A. State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Jacksonville,  
14 Florida.

15 Q. How long have you been employed with the FDEP and in what capacity?

16 A. 25 years as an Engineer in the Domestic Waste Section, with the State of Florida,  
17 Department of Environmental Protection in Jacksonville, Florida. I have had several  
18 different engineering positions within that section.

19 Q. What are your general responsibilities at the FDEP?

20 A. I am Compliance Coordinator for Domestic Waste Compliance Section and I perform  
21 various types of inspections at wastewater treatment facilities throughout the 20 county  
22 area. I also perform coordination duties with other members of the section and assist  
23 potential applicants with information regarding funding for various types of loans and  
24 grants and log in and investigate complaint calls, and handle information requests, and  
25 perform other duties as needed.

- 1 Q. Are you familiar with Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc. (utility) wastewater systems in  
2 Alachua and Putman Counties, particularly the Arredondo Farms wastewater treatment  
3 system in Alachua County, and the wastewater treatment systems in Putman County,  
4 including Palm Port, Park Manor, and Silver Lake Oaks.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Does the utility have appropriate current permits from the FDEP?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. Do all the systems have a valid operating permit?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Please state the issuance date and the expiration date of any construction permits.
- 11 A. These facilities are currently under operation permits. The operation permits include:  
12 Palm Port WWTF: issued November 10, 2003 and expires November 9, 2008.  
13 Park Manor WWTF: issued January 16, 2003 and expires January 15, 2008.  
14 Silver Lake Oaks WWTF: issued January 6, 2006 and expires January 5, 2011.  
15 Arredondo Farms WWTF: issued January 27, 2003 and expires January 26, 2008.
- 16 Q. Is the utility in compliance with its permits?
- 17 A. Yes, the plants are in compliance with the operation permits.
- 18 Q. Are the wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facilities adequate to serve  
19 present customers based on permitted capacity?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Has FDEP required the utility to take any action so as to minimize possible adverse  
22 effects resulting from odors, noise, aerosol drift or lighting?
- 23 A. No.
- 24 Q. Do pump stations and lift stations meet FDEP requirements with respect to location,  
25 reliability and safety?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Does the utility have certified operators as required by Chapter 62-602, Florida  
3 Administrative Code?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Is the overall maintenance of the treatment, collection, and disposal facilities  
6 satisfactory?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Does the utility meet all applicable technology based effluent limitations (TBELS) and  
9 water quality based effluent limitations (WQBELS)?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Does the facility meet the effluent disposal requirements of Sections 62-611 and 62-  
12 600.530, Florida Administrative Code?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Are the collection, treatment and disposal facilities in compliance with all other  
15 provisions of Title 62, Florida Administrative Code, not previously mentioned?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Has the utility been the subject of any FDEP enforcement action within the past two  
18 years?

19 A. There were no enforcement actions or warning letters. However, the Department sent a  
20 letter to Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc. on January 10, 2006 regarding an inspection that  
21 was performed at the Arredondo Farms Mobile Home Park Wastewater Treatment  
22 Facility on December 20, 2005 and noted several violations at the facility. The facility  
23 was rated as out-of-compliance at that time. Since then, the deficiencies noted for that  
24 inspection were corrected. Also, the last inspection that was performed on May 10,  
25 2007 only noted minor deficiencies. These deficiencies were corrected before the

1 inspection letter was mailed out. The facility was rated as in-compliance for that  
2 inspection.

3 Q. Do you have anything further to add?

4 A. No, I do not.

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In re: Application for increase in water and wastewater rates in Alachua, Brevard, Highlands, Lake, Lee, Marion, Orange, Palm Beach, Pasco, Polk, Putnam, Seminole, Sumter, Volusia, and Washington Counties by Aqua Utilities Florida, Inc.	DOCKET NO. 060368-WS DATED: AUGUST 21, 2007
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the DIRECT TESTIMONY OF KATHLEEN H. GERARD has been served by U.S. Mail to Kenneth A. Hoffman and Marsha E. Rule, Esquires, Rutledge, Ecenia, Purnell & Hoffman, P. A., P.O. Box 551, Tallahassee, FL 32302-0551, on behalf of AQUA UTILITIES FLORIDA, INC., and that a true and correct copy thereof has been furnished to the following by U. S. Mail, this 21st day of August, 2007:

Stephen Burgess & Stephen Reilly, Esquires  
Office of Public Counsel  
c/o The Florida Legislature  
111 W. Madison Street, Room 812  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

Cecilia Bradley, Esquire  
Office of the Attorney General  
The Capitol – PL01  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1050

  
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